

BETTS REGISTERED
ITALY'S TRANSFER

Poolroom Man Knew Captain
Was to Leave West Forty-
Seventh Street Station.

HOUSES MAY BE CLOSED

Belief Prevails That Gamblers Are
Unable to Get the Protection
Promised to Them.

HUNDREDS OF "PLACES" OPEN

Strong Organization Endeavoring to Con-
trol the "Privileges," as It Did
When Devery Was Chief.

From the Bowery to the upper Tenderloin information was passed along a month ago that the city would again be "wide open" and that all forms of gambling would be licensed. As the result of that information hundreds of poolrooms were opened and at least three score gambling houses.

While this information can be traced to a source close to Police Headquarters, it is the belief of those who are best situated to know that the promised protection cannot be given and that the houses will soon have to close their doors.

From Twenty-third street to Forty-seventh street there is not a street that does not contain on either side of Broadway gambling resorts of various natures. Protection money has been paid. Such investigation as it was possible to make yesterday developed the fact that there is a strong organization which is endeavoring to control the city, as it did in the days when William S. Devery was Chief of Police, but it was also developed that a movement is afoot which will bring retribution upon those paying as well as those accepting bribes.

On one of the Broadway corners, a few blocks above Forty-second street, is a building which has been empty for several weeks and which has been sought by a gambling syndicate, at the head of which is Louis Betts, who has returned to business and who has been running three large combination poolroom and gambling houses. To the man who holds the lease of the corner referred to Betts made an offer that from a financial viewpoint was tempting in the extreme. He said he would take the upper and lower floors and that he expected to establish the most extensive gambling house that New York has ever known.

Daily Was Transferred.
To this proposal the answer was made: "I don't think I care to lease the property for a purpose, but, in any event, it would be impossible for you to conduct the business there which you say you have in mind. Captain Daly will not stand for any such thing as that, unless I am very much mistaken."

"Never mind about Daly," was the reply made by Betts. "I know exactly what I can do. Daly is to be transferred. He could have remained here had he been liberal, but, as he has refused, he will be transferred within three days."

Betts was right. Captain Daly was transferred and his going was celebrated throughout the precinct on Saturday afternoon and night. Rooming houses were running that had not been open for several months. Gambling houses did a flourishing business without let or hindrance, but while this was going on Betts was compelled by some unknown force to close his gambling house and poolroom in Seventh avenue, just below Forty-second street. He did business there last Saturday afternoon and in the evening until ten o'clock, at which hour the lights were turned down and the doors were closed.

Inspector Walsh's View.
After the talk with Betts the owner of the Broadway corner in which it was desired to establish a gambling house called upon Inspector Walsh and asked him about the situation. The inspector was frank in his conversation and made no secret of the fact that he knew of the activity in gambling circles.

"I tell you," said Inspector Walsh, "these men are making the greatest mistake of their lives. I understand some one has told them to open a gambling establishment. Unofficially I know that several houses have been opened, but I can assure you that Commissioner Bingham is not sanctioning anything of the kind, and it is my belief he will only give a license with which to hang themselves. If any one tells you I have consented to gambling in my district you may know it is a lie. I am gathering evidence and will move as soon as possible."

Below Fourteenth street, the cheapest of gambling houses, and even the boys of the street have been open. In years past it has been the rule never to open a gambling house in the city on Sunday, but in several of the rooms games were running yesterday, and in one of them a brother of one of the best known German comedians last Sunday won \$11,000 across a roulette table.

Story of a "Raids."
As an example of the close connection which is maintained between the gamblers and a certain element of the police, attention is called to an alleged raid that was made a week ago yesterday morning. The report entered by the police is next door to a large hotel. There a poolroom had been in full operation for six weeks. The place was run as even the boys of the street are accustomed to. A police precaution was taken to guard against the police. On the other door in large letters was a sign reading: "Walk in. No one was to be admitted without a key. This place was frequented by hundreds every afternoon and evening, and had the police desired they might have closed it at any time. What was done was to wait until the house was ready to close on Sunday morning, when two detectives entered, climbed the stairs to the top floor, there took possession of a roulette wheel which had been placed ready and waiting for them.

This wheel was described as of great value; in fact it was the cheapest make, was worn out and at the highest valuation was not worth \$25. In the house was other furniture much more valuable, which was not touched. Monday afternoon the poolroom did business as usual, no one who applied for admission being denied.

When a stone's throw of the Herald office are four poolrooms, each of which has its scouts in Broadway in search of patrons. These poolrooms accept wagers from a dollar upward, and even the boys of the streets are not barred from them. These four poolrooms are situated in the city now closing are numerous. The conditions now existing are anomalous. Protection is being paid for, but the money does not reach far up, and a severe blow may be struck at any moment.



ONLY "A FIT OF HYSTERIA"

BIRTH SECRET HELD
BY HIDDEN POWER

Woman's Efforts to Learn of Parents
Balked for Twenty Years and
Her Life Menaced.

KIDNAPPED WHEN A CHILD
Spanish-American Dancer and Titled
Englishman in Havana.

Believing there is a mystery in her life which one woman can solve and continuing a search which she has been prosecuting for twenty years to learn something about her parents, Mrs. Jessie Coumbe, No. 281 Clifton place, Brooklyn, inserted the following advertisement in the Herald yesterday:

CUBAN WOMAN. Who ten years ago asked colored lady in Baltimore to help find child of the family she helped kidnap and bring to America 37 years ago, will find lady she helped wrong as a child in a Spanish-American dancer, Mrs. Jessie Coumbe, 281 Clifton place, Brooklyn, New York.

Starting with her first recollection of a luxurious home, a beautiful woman who, she believed, was her mother, and a man in uniform who visited her occasionally, Mrs. Coumbe yesterday told of being carried away on the back of a negro, of being brought to this country by a mulatto woman known as Harriet Gibson, and, after this woman's death, being taken into the family of Mrs. Susan Falanda, in Fernandina, Fla. Mrs. Falanda lost her property, and the girl, then eight years old, was placed in a convent, where she left five years afterward to work in a tobacco factory. A policeman who was friendly with the Falanda family told her he was under oath not to reveal her early life, but he said a Dr. Potter had paid Mrs. Falanda for her support every three months.

After her marriage in Jacksonville fifteen years ago, Mrs. Coumbe said, she tried to learn more about herself and was confronted by powerful influence that balked every effort and tried three times to poison her. Five years ago Mr. Steinhardt, in Havana, Cuba, told her he believed she was a daughter of Bonita Fernandez, a Spanish-American dancer who was murdered in Havana more than thirty years ago, and who had a little daughter who mysteriously disappeared. He said a sporting man, who could be reached through the late "Al" Smith, of the Gilsey House, could tell her something. A man who represented himself as the attorney for Mr. Smith called on her, but she never heard anything more. Mr. Steinhardt, she believes, was reached by the mysterious influence.

Her next clue was from Mrs. Morton, who answered a personal in the Herald. She said Mrs. Coumbe was a daughter of a Lord Wootton and a French maid, but afterward contradicted this story and advised Mrs. Coumbe to write to the Hon. Richard Wootton of Trinidad, Col., about his cousin, Lord Wootton. The widow of Richard Wootton replied that he was dead and ended the search in that direction.

Through another advertisement in the Herald Mrs. Coumbe learned that Bonita Fernandez had been associated with an attaché of the English Consulate, Shirley Wootton by name, and that a little daughter of the woman had mysteriously disappeared. In reply to an advertisement in the Herald in January, Mrs. Coumbe received a letter from a Mrs. Burton, who said she was a missionary worker in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Mrs. Burton said she had confessed that she had assisted in the abduction of a child many years before. Mrs. Burton said she would try to find the woman. She wrote three more letters, and last week called on Mrs. Coumbe, but Mrs. Coumbe believes she, too, has come under the mysterious influence.

NO HOPE FOR MR. PATISON.

Passed Comfortable Night, but Physicians' Public Reports Are Gloomy.
COLUMBUS, Ohio, Sunday.—Governor Patison had a comfortable night, according to the bulletin issued by the attending physicians this afternoon, and "favorable progress still continues." The members of the family feel much encouraged, but to the public the physicians do not hold out any hope of recovery.

One story printed to-day that the Governor is suffering from cancer is neither affirmed nor denied by the physicians. The kidney trouble from which he suffered is said to be only a complication.

BABY AND MAIDS
SAVED FROM FIRE

Daughter and Servants of William H.
Page Taken Down Fire Escape
by Albert Turner.

LITTLE GIRL'S SAFETY THE FIRST THOUGHT
All the Persons in House When
Flames Started.

In a fire which destroyed \$25,000 worth of paintings and rugs in the house of William H. Page, Jr., a lawyer, No. 47 West Seventh street, early last evening, the daughter of the family, a six-year-old child, and half a dozen servants were rescued from the fire escape on the third floor by being passed to the fire escape on the second floor of John I. Bristol's house, adjoining, through the resourcefulness and energy of Mr. Bristol's son-in-law, Albert Turner.

Starting from some unknown cause on the second floor of Mr. Page's house, the fire gained rapid headway between the partitions. Large volumes of smoke poured up to the third floor, where little Blanche was with her nurse, Mrs. Seales. Mary Fay, a servant, saw the fire and, after screaming at a scream rushed to the third floor to help rescue Blanche. When the four other servants on the lower floors heard the alarm their thoughts also turned to the child, and all rushed upstairs through the smoke to the nursery. They found that Mrs. Seales had taken refuge from the smoke on the fire escape, and that they also were obliged to go because of the rapid spread of the flames below.

While the women with the child were on the fire escape and before the firemen arrived Mr. Turner, who heard the commotion in the Page house, hastened to the third floor of the Bristol house. He saw the fire escapes of both houses were on a level and but a few feet apart. Bracing himself on the outside of the escape close to the Page house, he instructed the women to pass the child to him. The little one was quickly handed over and taken into the Bristol apartments. Mr. Turner guided the women one by one across the intervening space. As the fire engines came up to the burning house Mr. and Mrs. Page, who had been making a call, returned to their home and were promptly notified of the safety of their child and servants. It required two hours' hard work on the part of the firemen to finally subdue the flames. The second and third floors were wrecked, with all the pictures, rugs, carpets and furniture they contained.

LIGHTNING KILLS
PASTOR IN PULPIT

The Rev. J. B. Lentz Struck While
Encouraging Timid Ones in
Congregation.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]
TARRYTOWN, N. Y., Sunday.—Henry Bradley, of Dobbs Ferry, received a letter last night saying his sister, Miss Bessie Bradley, who disappeared on December 23, when on her way to take a steamship for England, is ill of a fever in Liverpool.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]
CARSON, Iowa, Sunday.—A bolt of lightning to-day caused the death of the Rev. J. B. Lentz, pastor of a Latter Day Saints church, stunned and burned many of the congregation and caused a panic in the audience.

The structure took fire while hundreds were trying to leave the building and was saved only by the efforts of cooler heads, who remained behind and quenched the flames. While the Rev. Mr. Lentz was preaching a severe thunderstorm raged without the church. Darkness settled over the congregation and the minister was just uttering a word of encouragement to the more timid ones when the bolt tore through the roof, struck a chandelier directly over the head of the pastor, snapped, while sparks played about the metal, and then struck the minister, who fell to the floor unconscious.

Scores of members in the forward seats sustained severe shocks, while those at the rear made a rush for the doors. After nearly all others except the fire fighters had made their exit the pastor was carried out, still insensible. He did not regain his senses and died within an hour. He leaves a widow and two children. Damage done by the fire was trifling.

BATTLE SHIPS
SAIL FOR CHINA

The Ohio Only a Few Hours Behind
the Wisconsin, Under Speed
Orders.

OUR BIG FLEET AT SHANGHAI
While the Government Affects to Feel No
Alarm, Diplomatic Circles Are Not
Without Concern.

HERALD BUREAU,
No. 23 FIFTH AVENUE, N. Y.
Cable advices received from Manila at the Navy Department to-day announce the departure from Cavite, P. I., for Shanghai, China, of the battle ship Ohio. When it arrives at Shanghai there will be eight American war ships under the American flag at that port. Despite the statement of the Navy Department that this movement is simply a part of the Asiatic fleet's routine and despite the denial from other official quarters that any trouble is expected at Shanghai, this concentration of force seems significant. It was at Shanghai that serious anti-foreign riots recently occurred.

The Wisconsin and the gunboat Concord sailed from Cavite yesterday for Shanghai and despatches from Manila this morning said that the ship went in a hurry, upon orders from Rear Admiral Train, commander in chief of the Asiatic fleet. The Ohio, which departed from Cavite to-day, is Rear Admiral Train's flagship. At the Navy Department it is said that no orders for the movement were sent from here to Rear Admiral Train, but that he probably has disposed his forces in accordance with the usual practice of going north with the coming of spring.

Already at Shanghai are the cruisers Raleigh and Cincinnati and the gunboats El Cano, Villalobos and Quilos. These gunboats do police duty on the Yangtze River.

The American naval force in the Far East will soon be augmented by the addition of the cruisers Chattanooga and Galveston, of Rear Admiral Sigbee's fleet, now in the Mediterranean. They will be detached from his fleet and proceed to the Far East via Suez.

Information here about the situation in China is conflicting. Although the administration saw few shadows a month or two ago, it takes a more cheerful view of the situation now. On the other hand, there is a pronounced indication of foreboding in the diplomatic circles whenever China is mentioned. English and German interests in China seem especially to fear that the boycott established against American products will extend to their own.

BESSIE BRADLEY IS FOUND.

Missing Girl Writes to Brother That
She Is Ill in a Hospital
in Liverpool.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]
TARRYTOWN, N. Y., Sunday.—Henry Bradley, of Dobbs Ferry, received a letter last night saying his sister, Miss Bessie Bradley, who disappeared on December 23, when on her way to take a steamship for England, is ill of a fever in Liverpool. She was traced to the Grand Central Station in New York, where detectives learned she had claimed her trunk and suit case. The letter received by Mr. Bradley is dated March 15, and reads:

"DEAR BROTHER:—I know you have been anxious to hear from me. I have been ill in a hospital here with a fever. I will be back home to you soon. Lovingly, Bessie."

Known as Mrs. Duncan, a young woman resembling Miss Bradley lived only a few weeks ago in Rosedale, near Mamaroneck. A young man who, she told neighbors, was her husband, visited her frequently. She resembled Miss Bradley even to the filling of the teeth, but her husband, L. S. Mosher, said she spoke with a decided German accent, while Miss Bradley was English.

Body Found in a Trunk.
STROCKTON, Cal., Sunday.—A baggage man at the Southern Pacific station discovered last night the body of a man about thirty-eight years old jammed into a trunk. The police assert that the man was placed in the trunk while yet alive. Clothing found in the trunk indicates he was either an engineer or a miner. A small book containing an account between J. C. Leslie and M. F. Farris was found in a pocket. The names Milar Myovich and Mitchell Myovich were found in the back of the book.

ROBBERS ATTEMPT
GOULD RESIDENCE

Fifth Avenue Home of Wealthy Financier Said To Have Been Visited
by Burglars.

Effort to Loot House of Mrs. Edward R. Ladew Fails Because of Servant's Quick Wit.

George J. Gould's residence, at the northeast corner of East Sixty-seventh street and Fifth avenue, was visited by burglars Friday night or early Saturday morning, according to a report circulated yesterday. The report was not verified, but it is known Mr. Gould's home and those of his wealthy neighbors have been the object of extraordinary police vigilance for a week, owing to the fact that a man of suspicious appearance has been seen strolling through East Sixty-seventh street and Fifth avenue in that neighborhood frequently and closely scanning every residence. From the East Sixty-seventh street police station a man has been deputed to patrol the neighborhood of the Gould residence every night.

In spite of this precaution the suspicious-looking man seems to have done his intended work and that his efforts did not result on Saturday in a heavy loss to Mrs. Edward R. Ladew, whose home, No. 3 East Sixty-seventh street, adjoins Mr. Gould's, was due to the quick wit of a woman servant left in charge while her employer is in the South. On Friday a delivery wagon of a firm of furniture dealers stopped in front of the Ladew house and left a brass bedstead there. The suspicious-looking man was seen in the neighborhood.

One of the women servants in charge of the Ladew house, answering the bell Saturday afternoon, found a young man with a small sack like those of carpet layers in his hand. He said he had come from the furniture house to see that the bedstead had been properly delivered and to polish it. The girl, never suspecting of his intentions, was about to direct him to the room where the bedstead had been put up, when she remembered that the dealers had failed to send straps for the bed.

"Did you bring the straps?" she asked. The man, unabashed, opened a notebook and scanned its pages closely, and answered: "There is no memorandum here about straps."

They were then in a hall near the telephone and the girl, who felt that she must insist for her employer's sake on the immediate delivery of the straps, said she would telephone and asked the visitor the telephone number.

"You can't get them to-day," replied the versatile visitor. They are putting in a new switchboard down at the store and the telephone is out of business. "Like a flash the girl saw that something was wrong, but gave no sign. She started up the stairs to lead the visitor to the bedstead he wanted to polish, but suddenly she remembered, she exclaimed: "There is some one who is ill in that room and you did not tell the truth, was about to direct him to the room where the bedstead had been put up, when she remembered that the dealers had failed to send straps for the bed."

SIX STEERS COST \$20,000.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]
KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sunday.—Gregory D. McLean, a farmer, testified in Circuit Court Saturday that in the last four years he had spent every cent of his fortune of \$20,000 trying to recover the value of six steers worth \$100. Now he is seeking permission to continue the suit as a pauper, unable to pay the costs. Judge McGuire has denied his petition.

Four years ago a neighbor of his shipped a carload of cattle to Kansas City, and six of McLean's steers were by accident included in the bunch. McLean followed the cattle to the stock yards here and recovered three head. Then he sued the neighbor and recovered the value of the other three. Later he brought suit against the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad for damages and expenses incurred in making the recovery. He asks for \$500.

EXPENSE \$152,512,
NEW METHOD DEMANDED

Remarkable Evils Exposed in
System of Condemnation
Proceedings.

NEW METHOD DEMANDED

Merchants' Association Will Send
Committee to Albany to Lay Mat-
ter Before Legislature.

EXTRAVAGANCE IS CHARGED

Proof Will Be Submitted by Commissioners
Receiving Pay from City While
Doing No Work at All.

Value of property condemned, \$1,144,571,
expenses of condemnation commissioners,
\$152,512.53.

With this and many other striking illustrations of the evils of the existing system of condemning property for public improvements through commissions which are virtually law enforcing upon themselves, a delegation from the Merchants' Association will go to Albany to-morrow morning to appear before the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly in advocacy of bills designed to effect a reform in the fee and referee systems.

Hard facts which are easily subject of proof from records in the courts will be laid before the committee. Special stress will be put upon the enormous expense attendant upon the taking of property for an increase of the city's water supply in Putnam and Westchester counties, but in other directions it will be shown how excessive have been the rewards of special commissioners as compared with the value of their labors to the city.

It will be proven to the Judiciary Committee that in several years the expenses of the Westchester county section exceeded the amount of the awards, as well as in Putnam county. In 1899 the awards in Westchester county were \$2,456,63, while the expenses of the commissioners were \$18,447.55; in 1892, awards \$2,648,67, expenses \$20,403.31; in 1895, awards \$2,341.45, expenses \$80,000.30.

In the six years from 1892 to 1898, inclusive, the awards in the Putnam county section were only \$1,144,571, against which were paid expenses of \$152,512.53.

Paid Interest Also.
Moreover, during all of the time that these condemnation proceedings were dragging along the city was under an additional expense of six per cent interest charges payable to the former owners of the property, while at least in former cases, if not in very many, the land and owners continued to occupy the property, thus whatever benefit accrued from physical possession of the property.

One of the striking instances which will be brought to the attention of the committee as an example of the deliberate manner in which some of these commissioners have wrongfully put the city to excessive expense is that of a small residence property in Katonah, where sixteen distinct visits of inspection were made by three commissioners, each drawing \$10 for each visit, involving a total expense for merely examining this little house of \$480. "The Merchants' Association," says a report which will be submitted to the Judiciary Committee, "has further made some examination into the real values of the properties condemned by these commissioners. It has found that in these cases the awards were grossly in excess of the real values to the extent of several hundred per cent. These raids upon the public treasury were made under the form of law, the condemnation commissioners being appointees of courts."

City Officials Decried.
The fact remains, however, that various city officials have been derelict in having made no attempt to prevent this great waste of public funds, which might have been done had these officials taken cognizance of what they must have known to be frauds. It is the statutory duty of the Corporation Counsel's office to protect the city in condemnation proceedings. This has not been done except in the immediate past. The financial records of the Aqueduct Commission of necessity take cognizance of all the details of these transactions. There is no record of any interference on the part of the Aqueduct Commission.

Referring directly to the proceedings for condemnation of aqueduct lands in Westchester and Putnam counties, the report characterizes the proceedings as a "record of payments for services far in excess of the value of the services actually rendered, of fees paid Commissioners during periods of several years in which no genuine work whatever was done."

Only \$9.22 a \$100 in the City.
Taking the proceedings as a whole, the record is almost as bad as in the exceptional cases noted. In the case of land acquired by the Aqueduct Commission for new water works the expense for each acre was \$43.00, while in the case of land acquired by the Department of Water Supply (and its predecessors) in Westchester and Putnam counties to prevent pollution, for each \$100 of award in Putnam county the proportion was \$37.55, while in the city and county of New York the expense was the relatively moderate sum of \$9.22, or about one-tenth of it. In the case of outlays by the city for land in the Croton Valley for purposes of water supply.

Appeal will be made for abolition of the entire referee system, as well as for a reformation of the system of commissions expended between the city and the aqueducts in connection with street opening proceedings in the Bronx, the "planting" of houses to be sold to the city, and other abuses.

Edward M. Groot, William N. Cohen, Eugene A. Philbin, Martin W. Littleton, John B. Leavitt and Henry W. Jessup will head the committee.

DRY DOCK PASSES GIBRALTAR.
Wireless Message from the Collier Glazier Reports "All Well on Board."

GIBRALTAR, Sunday.—Mr. Sprague, the American Consul here, to-day received a wireless despatch from the United States Collier Glazier, Commander H. H. Hosley, informing him that the floating dry dock (Gibraltar) at five minutes past eleven o'clock this morning. The despatch reported all well on board, but said that the weather was bad.

WIDOW'S VAULT
IN \$75,000 LOSS

WOMAN CHARGES

Mrs. William A. Stevens Still
Insists That Her Vault
Was Despoiled.

TAKES ISSUE WITH
STATEMENTS MADE

Gives Out List of Part of the Valua-
bles She Says She Placed in
Box When She Left.

\$25,000 REWARD STILL STANDS

Widow of Banker Would Be Entirely Willing, She Declares, to Pay Sum for Solution of the Puzzle.

Regretting the notoriety which the offer of a \$25,000 reward had brought to her, Mrs. William Austin Stevens, who found missing from her vault in the National Safe Deposit Company \$3500 in cash and jewelry to the value of \$50,000 when she opened it after an absence of almost two years from the city, said yesterday she would leave no effort unexpended in clearing up the mystery of the disappearance of the valuables.

Seated in the parlor of her apartment in the Hotel Nederland, Mrs. Stevens supplied some of the details of the loss she has sustained and took direct issue with several of the statements made by Mr. Pendergast, manager of the National Safe Deposit Company, of No. 32 Liberty street, and also some of the assertions of Thomas C. Ennever, of No. 12 Nassau street, her former counsel, whose right of access to the box is now in dispute.

It was only after urging that Mrs. Stevens consented to talk of the matter and to give a list of some of the jewels she had placed in the box when she left the city for California in May, 1904, when she was called West to look after extensive investments in gold mining properties north of San Francisco.

Suffers from Accident.
Mrs. Stevens is of middle age. Her attire and address indicate the education she occupied as the wife of William Austin Stevens, a wealthy banker, associated with the Cuttings-R. Fulton Cutting and W. Bayard, and since his widow having received a large sum through his will.

The accident which brought her East and which indirectly was the cause of the present investigation has left its trace, and she is still a sufferer from the three broken ribs which she received in falling and which had not entirely knitted when she undertook the long trip back to this city. "There is nothing for me to say," said Mrs. Stevens, "beyond what was printed in the Herald on Sunday morning, except to supply certain details and to correct misstatements. The matter, to my way of thinking, is clear enough. I left in my vault upon my departure from the city \$25,000 in the form of a certificate of deposit on the United States Trust Company, \$25,000 worth of New York Central Railroad bonds, \$5,000 in cash and jewelry to the value of perhaps \$50,000. There were also some valuable, although not readily negotiable, papers."

"In another and smaller box I left my will, of which Edward Burns, a cashier of the American Exchange National Bank, Thomas C. Ennever and Henry Smith were named as executors, and a deed to a plot in the Williams Cemetery. To this box I gave Mr. Ennever the right of access and a key; to the other I reserved the right and retained both keys which I left in a desk when I sent my furniture to a storage warehouse after discontinuing housekeeping in No. 27 Central Park West.

"I met with an accident about two months ago while in Reading, Cal., and was carried to San Francisco to receive medical treatment. At the same time I needed cash for business purposes and wired Mr. Ennever to send me \$10,000. I hoped he might be able to realize this amount on the certificate of deposit without being under the necessity of actually presenting it, since its face value called for a far larger sum than I wanted. This being impossible, on account of the safeguards the banks throw about such matters, it seems, Mr. Ennever, thinking my need was desperate, determined to realize upon the New York Central bonds.

Denies His Rights.
"I did not sign an agreement which gave him the right of access and I do not think that the National Company should have permitted entry to have been made. As soon as I heard that he had taken this means of raising the money I wired him that I did not wish the bonds sold, and, considering that there was some wrong in the fact that he had succeeded in getting hold of them, I came on to New York at once.

"I visited the vault and there found the trust company certificate and the bonds, which had been rented in the meantime, but found nothing of the jewels or the cash. Some papers, too, were missing, but these were later found in Mr. Ennever's safe. It is not true that the money was in \$1,000 bills; a part of it was in currency of that denomination, but much of it was in bills of larger amount. "At once placed the matter in the hands of my counsel, Henry Smith, and he is at present endeavoring to get Mr. Ennever to return the money and the jewels. There were never taken before he opened the box. I am told he did not open the box, and the safe deposit people say they would have been a physical impossibility for the vault to have been entered before his visit and these two stories seem to be the only sort of satisfaction we have thus far been able to obtain."

To Enlist Detectives.
Mrs. Stevens intends to put the matter in the hands of a private detective agency and it is possible that she may follow the advice of friends and have conference with Inspector W. W. McLaughlin, head of the Detective Bureau.

Among the jewels which have disappeared are many heirlooms and other pieces of great value, including an unusually large pigeon blood ruby, surrounded by heavy diamonds, which was the gift of her husband; diamond and pearl collar and a necklace of pearls and diamonds of the same kind composed of stones of rare size and beauty.

Note of the persons concerned in the matter express a doubt but that the case was sustained by Mrs. Stevens; both Mr. Pendergast and Mr. Ennever are inclined to believe that she may have placed the money and the jewels elsewhere and that she is mistaken in the belief that she placed them in the deposit vault.